

AGRICULTURAL NEWS: Average temperatures increased by 1 degree for the fourth full week of April. Rainfall, however, was above normal for much of the State. **Topsoil moisture**, as of Friday, April 30 was rated 9 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 22 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture**, was rated 2 percent very short, 15 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus. **Days suitable for fieldwork** averaged 2.7 out of a possible 6 days. Primary farming activities were slowed by the wet weather, but the rain was sorely needed in most areas.

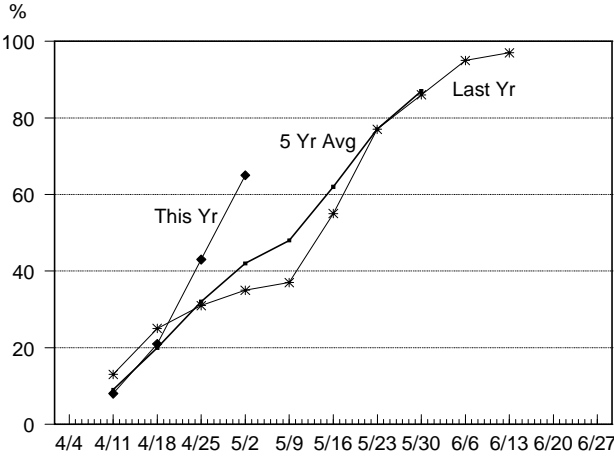
TOBACCO: Plant size of tobacco in beds and greenhouses was 48 percent less than 2 inches, 36 percent 2 to 4 inches and 16 percent larger than 4 inches. Most producers seem to be confident that there is an adequate supply of plants available. Only about 1 percent of all tobacco had been set in the field. This holds for both burley and dark tobacco.

CORN: Planting was generally well ahead of schedule with 65 percent of the intended acreage complete as of Sunday, May 2, compared to 35 percent last year and 42 percent for the five year average. Soil temperatures continue to rise, improving field conditions for emergence.

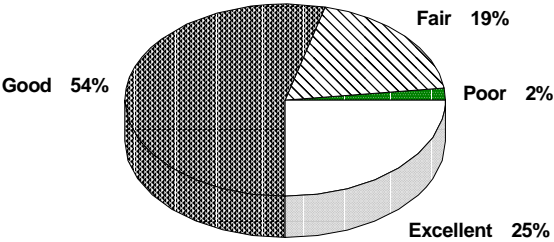
SMALL GRAINS & LEGUMES: Reports of damage to winter wheat were non-existent. About 50 percent of winter wheat was headed or is heading. As of Friday, April 30 wheat condition was rated 2 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 54 percent good and 25 percent excellent.

OTHER CROPS: Pasture condition was rated 5 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 52 percent good and 14 percent excellent. Warm weather and the much needed rain stimulated strong pasture growth. Hay condition was rated 4 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 14 percent excellent.

CORN PLANTING PROGRESS



WHEAT CONDITION
(May 3)



KENTUCKY CROP PROGRESS

WEEK ENDING MAY 2, 1999

WITH COMPARISONS

Crop Stage	This Week	Previous Year	5-Yr. Avg.	Previous Week KY	U.S.
Percentage					
Corn					
Planted	65	35	42	43	10
Emerged	33	18	27	15	NA
Soybeans					
Planted	2	1	2	2	NA
Wheat					
Headed or Heading	50	51	35	20	15

(NA) Data Not Available

SOIL MOISTURE

WEEK ENDING APRIL 30, 1999

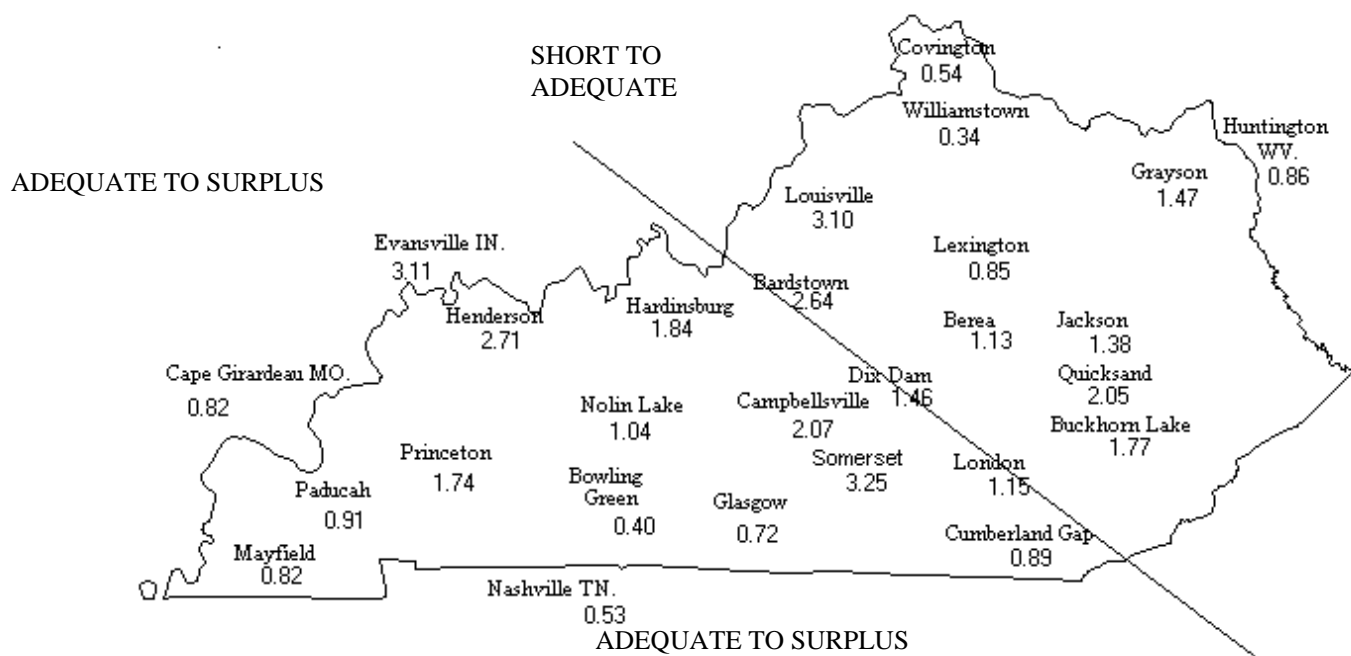
WITH COMPARISONS

	This Week	Previous Week
Percentage		
TOPSOIL		
Very Short	0	1
Short	9	19
Adequate	69	73
Surplus	22	7
SUBSOIL		
Very Short	2	3
Short	15	15
Adequate	65	76
Surplus	18	6

KENTUCKY CROP CONDITIONS (Percent)

CROP	WEEK ENDING APRIL 30, 1999					WEEK ENDING APRIL 23, 1999				
	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL- LENT	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL- LENT
Corn Emerged	0	1	24	60	15	0	3	30	57	10
Wheat	0	2	19	54	25	0	3	14	57	26
Pasture	0	5	29	52	14	1	4	35	47	13
Hay Crops	0	4	25	57	14	-	-	-	-	-

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 2, 7:00 P.M.
TOPSOIL MOISTURE DELINEATION FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1999



KENTUCKY WEATHER SUMMARY, APRIL 26 - MAY 2, 1999:

Cloudy, wet conditions from showers and thunderstorms helped to improved soil moisture conditions for many locations across the Commonwealth during the first half of this past workweek, but interrupted field operations. Drier conditions prevailed for the remainder of the workweek with cooler morning low temperatures and a warming trend for afternoon highs.

Temperatures for this past week averaged 61 degrees across the state which was 1 degree BELOW NORMAL and a similar average temperature for the previous week. High temperatures averaged from 74 in the West to 69 in the East. Departure from normal high temperatures ranged from 2 degrees BELOW NORMAL in the West to 1 degree BELOW NORMAL in the East. Low temperatures averaged from 51 degrees in the West to 49 degrees in the East. Departure from normal low temperature ranged from NEAR NORMAL in the West to 1 degree BELOW NORMAL in the East. Extreme high temperatures were in the 70's to near 80 degrees and extreme low temperatures were in the upper 30's to low 40's. As in previous weeks of April...no state-wide frosts were reported. Precipitation (liq. equ.) for the week totaled 1.45 inches statewide which was 0.44 inches ABOVE NORMAL. Precipitation totals by climate division, West 1.68 inches, Central 1.62 inches, Bluegrass 0.87 inches and East 1.60 inches, which was +0.60, +0.59, -0.09 and +0.66 inches respectively from normal. By station, precipitation totals ranged from a low of 0.34 inches at Williamstown to a high of 3.25 inches at Somerset.

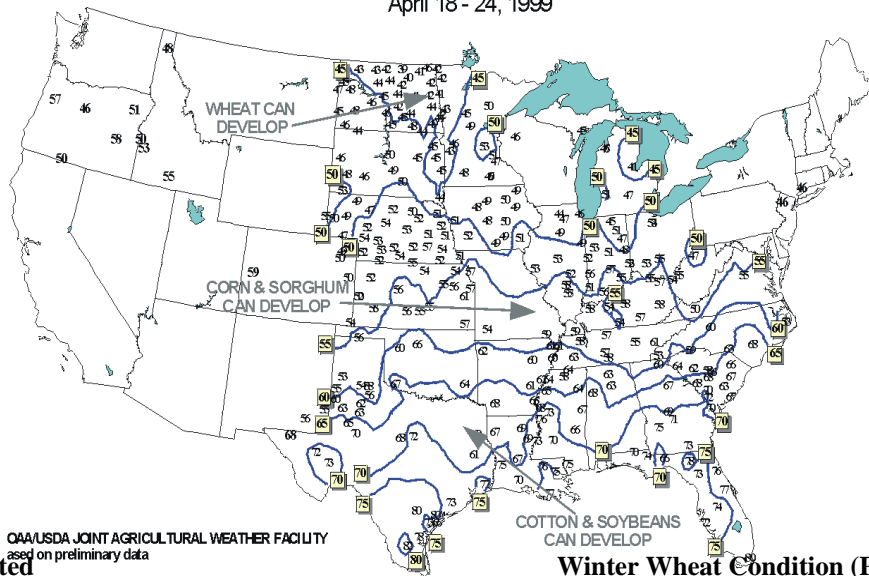
Tom Priddy

**KENTUCKY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL
FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 2, 7:00 P.M.**

Weather Station	Rainfall			Deviation From		Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days		
	Last Week	Since April 1	Last Four Wks	Norm Since Apr. 1	Norm Last 4 Wks	High	Low	Wkly. Avg.	Dev. From Norm	Dev. Last Since Week Apr.1	Since Apr. 1	
	(Inches)					(Degrees Fahrenheit)						
Bardstown	2.64	3.90	3.53	-0.27	-0.12	75	43	60.9	-0	82	352	+22
Berea	1.13	2.23	2.12	-2.34	-1.88	76	38	58.4	-2	77	397	+65
Bowling Green	0.40	1.78	1.38	-2.86	-2.68	79	43	63.4	+2	100	391	+59
Bristol	0.88	2.47	2.09	-1.08	-1.02	75	37	56.6	-3	64	340	+42
Buckhorn Lake	1.77	3.57	3.25	-0.45	-0.27	75	38	58.4	-2	74	380	+82
Cape Girardeau	0.82	5.25	3.08	+0.49	-1.09	79	42	62.4	-1	92	360	+26
Campbellsville	2.07	3.76	3.34	-1.31	-1.10	78	40	61.9	+1	91	403	+71
Covington	0.54	2.98	2.50	-1.05	-1.03	75	41	58.0	-2	62	268	+0
Cumberland Gap	0.89	2.74	2.38	-1.65	-1.47	75	41	58.6	-1	71	358	+60
Dix Dam	1.46	2.66	2.44	-1.87	-1.52	75	41	59.5	-0	77	356	+26
Evansville	3.11	5.65	4.45	+1.32	+0.66	78	45	60.5	-3	77	322	+20
Glasgow	0.72	2.30	1.75	-2.58	-2.52	80	41	63.6	+2	103	450	+178
Grayson	1.47	3.40	2.74	-0.50	-0.68	76	42	60.4	+0	80	365	+99
Hardinsburg	1.84	4.40	3.83	-0.22	-0.22	80	39	60.5	-1	88	351	+19
Henderson	2.71	5.36	3.91	+0.81	-0.08	81	45	62.6	-1	94	371	+39
Huntington	0.86	2.49	2.13	-1.38	-1.26	76	43	58.1	-2	68	332	+34
Jackson	1.38	3.49	3.16	-0.90	-0.68	74	39	58.8	-1	68	372	+74
Lexington	0.85	2.27	1.99	-1.90	-1.66	73	43	59.1	-1	71	314	+46
London	1.15	3.75	3.39	-0.44	-0.28	75	37	59.1	-1	74	360	+62
Louisville	3.10	4.52	4.12	-0.01	+0.16	76	44	60.4	-1	79	330	+28
Mayfield	0.82	4.76	4.23	-0.61	-0.47	76	42	62.1	-1	92	397	+33
Nashville	0.53	2.29	2.00	-2.39	-2.10	80	44	63.1	+2	97	456	+92
Nolin Lake	1.04	2.85	2.45	-2.03	-1.83	79	41	62.4	+1	94	379	+49
Paducah	0.91	6.40	2.97	+1.07	-1.69	80	43	62.6	-1	96	396	+62
Princeton	1.74	5.85	4.00	+0.73	-0.48	81	45	64.5	+1	106	448	+86
Quicksand	2.05	3.42	3.12	-0.97	-0.72	75	37	58.3	-2	77	400	+102
Somerset	3.25	6.03	5.73	+1.35	+1.63	76	38	60.4	+0	83	381	+51
Spindletop	0.92	1.87	1.65	-2.30	-2.00	73	45	58.6	-1	65	282	+14
Williamstown	0.34	2.03	1.64	-2.40	-2.24	74	44	59.0	-1	70	322	+54

The above information is provided by Tom Priddy, Kentucky Extension Agricultural Meteorologist, University of Kentucky Agr’l Weather Center (606)257-3000 ext 245. E-mail: tpriddy@ca.uky.edu Additional Ky weather data available on Internet at: <http://www.wagwx.ca.uky.edu/>

Average 4" Bare Soil Temperature (F)
April 18 - 24, 1999



QAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY
based on preliminary data

Corn Percent Planted

State	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	9	3	12	14
GA	96	92	81	91
IL	7	6	6	15
IN	5	4	3	9
IA	3	1	3	10
KS	19	9	49	31
KY	43	21	31	32
MI	0	0	4	1
MN	6	0	23	10
MO	28	18	28	32
NE	8	1	10	10
NC	70	50	50	67
OH	9	7	4	11
PA	2	1	7	4
SD	1	0	7	2
TX	62	55	72	67
WI	1	0	3	2
ALL	10	6	14	15

These 17 States planted 90% of last year's corn acreage.

Winter Wheat Condition (Percent)

State	VP	P	F	G	E X
AR	0	2	14	54	30
CA	0	0	10	85	5
CO	4	8	19	47	22
GA	7	23	34	34	2
ID	0	1	11	67	21
IL	0	3	20	65	12
IN	0	3	16	59	22
KS	1	4	21	54	20
MI	0	1	14	48	37
MO	1	6	35	49	9
MT	3	5	47	43	2
NE	1	1	18	73	7
NC	0	2	24	66	8
OH	0	1	11	57	31
OK	0	1	15	75	9
OR	3	15	39	40	3
SD	0	1	13	64	22
TX	6	14	36	37	7
WA	3	7	43	45	2
ALL	2	5	24	55	14
Prev Wk	2	5	24	56	13
Prev Yr.	1	4	20	57	18